

U.S.S.N. 10/771,862

4

PD-980189B

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claim 1-10 and 17-30 have been canceled. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner for reconsideration of the rejections.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over Turnbull et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,166,698). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 11 recites three elements that form a portable antenna assembly for communicating with the satellite. The portable antenna assembly includes a connector, a transmission wire coupled to the connector, and an antenna element coupled to the transmission wire, said antenna element sending and receiving signals from the satellite.

The Examiner points to Figure 3 of the Turnbull reference and column 6, lines 6-26. Applicants agree that an antenna 50 is illustrated in Figure 3. A transmission wire 85 is also shown in Figure 3. However, there is no teaching or suggestion of a connector coupled to the transmission wire. In fact, an antenna connector 84 is illustrated in Figure 3. The antenna connector 84 couples the antenna 50 to the circuit board 82. Transmission wire 85 appears to be directly connected to the circuit board and not to the antenna connector 84. Therefore, each and every element of claim 11 is not found in the Turnbull reference. That is, there is no connector coupled to a transmission wire. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner for reconsideration of claim 11.

Claims 11, 12, and 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Raymond et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,579,367). Applicants respectfully traverse.

U.S.S.N. 10/771,862

5

PD-980189B

The Examiner points to Figure 1 of the Raymond reference. Applicants admit that a parabolic dish antenna with a motor is illustrated. The Examiner points to column 2, lines 29-64 for the teachings. However, it should be noted that the present claims are directed to a portable antenna assembly. It does not appear that the Raymond reference teaches a portable antenna assembly. Therefore, there is no teaching or suggestion for a transmission wire coupled to a connector. With respect to claims 12, 15 and 16, it appears these claims are also allowable for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 11.

With respect to claim 14, there is no teaching or suggestion for a mechanically-steered and electronically-shaped beam in the Raymond reference. It appears that the Raymond reference merely mechanically steers the beam but does not electronically shape the beam. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claim 14 for these reasons and the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 11.

Claims 11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Runyon et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,864,837). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Runyon reference is directed to a wireless base station antenna and not to a portable antenna assembly as is set forth in the present application. The Examiner points to Figures 1 and 3 of the Runyon reference for teaching a phased array antenna and a transmission wire not shown in a number. The antenna illustrated in the Runyon reference is not directed to a portable antenna assembly for communicating with the satellite. In fact, there is no teaching or suggestion for communicating with the satellite, but rather with fixed terrestrial base stations that are mounted on a pole 14 as illustrated in Figure 1. Therefore, there is no teaching for a connector and a transmission wire coupled to the connector. Therefore, each and every element of the claims is not found in the Runyon reference. Applicants do not believe that the connector is inherent in the system since it is not a portable system.

U.S.S.N. 10/771,862

6

PD-980189B

Applicants, therefore, respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of claim 11 under the Runyon reference and claim 13 for at least the same reasons.

DRAWINGS

The undersigned gratefully acknowledge the acceptance of the drawings filed on 03 February 2004.

CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks above, Applicant submits that all objections and rejections are now overcome. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments which would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Should any fees be associated with this submission, please charge Deposit Account 50-0383.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 1, 2007

By: 

Georgann S. Grunebach, Reg. No. 33,179
Attorney for Applicant

The DIRECTV Group, Inc.
CA/LA1/A109
2230 East Imperial Highway
P.O. Box 956
El Segundo, CA 90245
Telephone: (310) 964-4615